

attendance about 45. It is a union Sunday-school some Methodists, Baptist, Brethren and other. Husband has been superintendent and preacher all summer until just lately we have a new superintendent, a Methodist and he is all right, he does what he can and that is all that is asked of any one.

We use the Brethren's Literature in the Sunday school. Brothers and sisters pray for us that we may ever be about our Master's business and work to bring souls to Christ.

This is a very healthy climate. Crops are quite good, the men are busy getting in the corn the good Lord has permitted us to have. Small grain was good in quality, but not so large in quantity.

I will say this much, if any one would like to know any more about South Dakota, come and see for yourself. We think it is allright, the children are well satisfied. With much love to all the dear sisters, and inquiring ones I will close.

Mrs. ELI HOOVER.

## Our Young People

### Trust Song

For Thy name's sake lead and guide me.—Ps. 31 : 3.

Just as God leads me I would go;  
I would not ask to choose my way;  
Content with what he will bestow,  
Assured he will not let me stray;  
So, as he leads, my path I make,  
And step by step I gladly take,  
A child in him confiding.

Just as God leads, I am content;  
I rest me calmly in his hands;  
That which he hath decreed and sent,  
That which his will for me commands,  
I would that he should all fulfill,  
That I should do his gracious will  
In living or in dying.

Just as God leads, I all resign;  
I trust me to my Father's will;  
When reason's rays deceptive shine,  
His counsel would I yet fulfill;  
That which his love ordained as right  
Before he brought me to the light,  
My all to him resigning.

Just as God leads me, I abide  
In faith, in hope, in suffering, true;  
His strength is ever by my side—  
Can aught my hold on him undo?  
So patiently I wait, and know  
That he who doth my life bestow  
In kindness all is sending.

Just as he leads, I onward go,  
Oft amid thorns and briers keen;  
God does not yet his guidance show,  
But in the end it shall be seen  
How, by a loving Father's will,  
Faithful and true he leads me still,  
A child in him confiding.

—In His Steps.

### ARE YOU DOING YOUR BEST?—Matt. 25:14-30 Topic Nov. 4 (Monthly business meeting for C. E.)

It is one of the most common failings of men that instead of seeking to measure up to the standard of right which God has given us they are content with the standard which is commonly practiced by the average of people. "If that man gets to heaven I will" "I guess I am living about as nearly right as my neighbors," are common remarks. Yet God has made it one of the fundamental laws of life that in the struggle for existence the fittest survives and he who will not fulfill the law of his nature which de-

mands that he make the most of his possibilities will sooner or later fall behind in the race. "All nature is on the side of him who tries to rise." The command to subdue the earth means invention, art, civilization, education and morality. It means the reign of the spiritual over the carnal. "He who does less than his best does less than his duty." No man can do his best who does not take a stand out and out for God and his kingdom and make use of the means of grace which God has given. To the one who does his best is added greater power, but from the one who neglects is taken away even that which he has. The law of degeneration is as much a law of God as the law of development. In our Christian work are we among the faithful stewards who shall be rewarded for doing the best possible?

#### SCRIPTURE LIGHT

Let each of these scriptures be explained by some one showing how they teach the point indicated.

- 1 Our best is not only urged but required, I Cor. 4 : 1, 2.
- 2 Our responsibility cannot be shifted, Gal 6 : 4, 5.
- 3 The spirit which causes one to shirk one duty would if possible shirk all, Jas. 3 : 10.
- 4 One little failing wilfully permitted may spoil a life, Mark 10 : 20-22.
- 5 A church or society tolerating a known fault will lose its power for good, Rev. 2 : 2, 6.
- 6 Even tho not conscious of any lack we yet should humbly seek better service, I Cor. 4 : 4. R. V. (The revised version has "against myself" instead of "by myself" and "justified" for "judged.")
- 7 It is for every one to rise above past failures and press toward perfection, Phil. 3 : 13, 14.
- 8 Reward will be not according to profession, but according to works, Rev. 22 : 12.
- 9 One's works in God's sight are not the visible results, but the sincere efforts put forth, II Cor. 8 : 12.
- 10 Let us not be weary in well doing, Gal. 6 : 9.

#### ILLUSTRATIVE

- 1 Draw a lesson on our topic from Joash, II Kings 13 : 18, 19.
- 2 Israel's sin, our sin, Mal. 1 : 13, 14.

#### FOR TWO-MINUTE TALKS

- 1 Our best—what it implies.
- 2 Helps and incentives for doing our best.
- 3 Our perfect standard, Matt. 5 : 48.

#### QUESTIONS

- 1 What does it mean to do your best?
- 2 Why should we do our best?
- 3 How may we know if we are doing our best?
- 4 Does God expect more of us than we can do?
- 5 When are we to do our best?
- 6 What results if we do not do our best?
- 7 What reward is there for doing our best?
- 8 Is it always necessary to do great things in order to do our best?
- 9 Is it right for us to boast that we are doing our best?
- 10 How may we as a society do better work this month than last?

NOTE—Thanksgiving day is drawing nigh. Would it not be well at this time to plan for a large thank offering for missions or the College painting fund? Or perhaps plan to enter the new century soon to be ushered in with a great consecration offering, and a vigorous advance in our campaign all around?

C. F. YODER.

### A Word With the Look-out Committee

Last week I addressed myself to the members of the Prayer-meeting Committee. I attempted to impress them with the importance of their work to the society. No society can exist as such without its *Weekly* prayer-meeting. This meeting is to-day recognized as one of the most important services of the church and has already solved several problems that the church itself, doubtless, would not have solved. But the

usefulness of this meeting depends much on the Prayer-meeting Committee.

But the Look-out Committee too is an important Committee, since its duty consists primarily in bringing new members into the society and exercising a general watch over those already in to see that they do not neglect their duties. It can thus be seen that this committee can not be dispensed with. The growth and usefulness of the society, in a very great measure, depend upon this society. As members of this committee you should appreciate this fact, that the present usefulness and helpfulness of the Society as well as its continued existence depends very largely upon the work of the committee, of which you are a part. Every office in the society carries with it responsibility. We have no room for figure heads. The society has called you to serve, and the more heartily this is appreciated the better for all concerned. Let me now speak of your work and make some suggestions as how to best do it.

Your work is twofold, first, to bring in *new members*. This implies that you are acquainted with all persons that may come under the influence of your church and society. In the city your field will be limited very largely to the area in which your church works. While in the country your field of activity is practically unlimited.

If the field in which you are to work is very large, it would be well to divide it into as many sections as you may have members in the Committee. Let each member then be responsible for one section. At least once a year your entire field ought to be canvassed thoroughly. Make a list of the young men and ladies that do not attend your Sunday evening services. Make these then subjects for special exertion. Spare no means that may win them to the society. Keep them in touch with your work. Send them special invitations. Visit them and encourage others of the society to visit them. Persistence will in most cases win, if tact is used. Watch all new comers into your field. Visit them as soon as possible and invite them to your Sunday evening service. Ascertain if they are members of the church. If you find they are not, at once ask them to become members. If they are not Christians invite them to become associate members.

You can already perceive that your work is not only *important* but *extensive*. But it *can be done*. It *has been done*. What others have done you can do.

But your work is not only to *look out* for new members, but to *look after* those already in the society. Members of the society are so prone to neglect their duties that it becomes necessary for some one to remind them of their indifferences and impress upon them the necessity of a more earnest, complete consecration to the cause they have espoused. To do this work is also the function of the Look-out Committee and it goes without saying that the spiritual welfare of the society depends much upon the efficient and conscientious manner in which these